Secta. II-27—100,000—21-5-52

Food and Agri culture (195 49) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 968

Dated 15-9-49.

[Despatch Abstract.]

re - Grow More Food - Revised Food Production Policy - Use

al to increase Production - Proposals dropped - Papers recorded.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

D.O.53575 AV/49-1. Fort St. George,
Dated 23rd May 1949.

My dear Sundaram,

Sub: Agriculture - Grow More Food - Revised Food production policy - Use of bone-meal to increase production.

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It is observed that the present off-take of bone-meal is only a very small fraction of the output. The response of crops to bone meal manuring is no doubt slow but when once the ryot is convinced of the enduring benefits of bone-meal manuring, it is almost certain that the demand will very much increase. It is suggested that our Research Section should conduct experiments for converting bone-meal if necessary, into more easily assimilable forms in order that quick and more easily perceptible results could be achieved. I am to request you to offer your remarks on this suggestion.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. M.T. Raju.

To
R.M. Sundaram, Esq., I.C.S.,
Director of Agriculture.

/True Copy/

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

From
Sri B.M.Lakshmipathi,B.E.,M.E.,
M.R.A.S.E.,
Joint Director of Agriculture,
'Rushkyrum' 2 Club House Road,
Madras - 2.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Food Department,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

M.3.1001/49 dated 5/8/49.

Sir,

Sub: Agriculture - Grow More Food - Revised Food Production policy use of bonemeal to increase production.

Ref: Development Department D.O.53575 AV/49-1 dated 23/5/49.

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In the reference cited above Government have called for my remarks on their suggestion that the Research Section of the Department of Agriculture should conduct experiments for converting bonemeal if necessary into more easily assimilable forms in order that quick and more easily perceptible results could be achieved.

2. The suggestion was communicated to the following Manure Mixing Firms for expressing their views and their comments are furnished below:

(i) Messrs. Parry & Co., Madras.
(ii) Messrs. Shaw Wallance & Co., Madras.
(iii) Messrs. T. Stanes & Co., Coimbatore.
(iv) Mes Premier Fertilisers, Tanjore.
(v) Messrs. Scientific Fertiliser & Co., Coimbatore.

3. From the reports received from these firms, it is observed that they uniformly recommend that a finer grainding of bonemeal will ensure quick and perceptible results but hhey state that it will cost more than the present prices. Further it is stated that many of the Bone Mills in this Province may not have the equipment suitable for undertaking the fine grinding now suggested. So long as Bone Mills are primarily interested in the export trade in bone grist it is too much to expect that they will give this question the careful attention that it deserves. Steamed bone meal is generally advocated for ryots crops as the steaming process softens the bones and also increases the Citric soluble phosphoric acid contents, thus making the material act quicker. It may however be said that the high cost of manufacture would appear to be difficult to recover from the ryot in the price which would have to be demanded in the commencing stages.

4. It is stated in the Government reference quoted above "It is observed that the present off take of bonemeal is only a very small fraction of the output". This would appear to indicate that the off take through the agricultural depots in the straight form Bonemeal is sold to an appreciable extent in Manure Mixtures also by the several Manure Mixing Firms in considerable quantities and it is estimated that the total sales by all the manure mixing firms put together will be about 15,000 Tons per year. The production of bonemeal in this Province is thus estimated to be nearly 15,000 to 20,000 tons per year. The fact that some manure mixing firms have to buy bonemeal even from outside the Province as they are not able to get their full requirements from Madras Province indicates that the consumption of bonemeal is not just a small fraction but the whole quantity produced and probably even more. It may also be interesting to note that the consumption of bonemeal can be actually increased in the form of mixtures

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but the mixing firms are not able to do this at present, due to the restricted allotment of Government imported Sulphate of Ammonia which is one of the main ingredients for Manure Mixtures. If the allotment of Sulphate of Ammonia is increased, then the consumption of mixtures will increase and thereby the consumption of Bonemeal will increase still further.

5. Whenever it is possible, the use of Bonemeal in conjunction with green manure is necessary as it will enhance the availability of the Phosperic acid in the Bonemeal for the use of the plant growth. Where green manure is not available, bonemeal mixed with Super Phosphate and Sulphate of Ammonia gives quick and perceptible results. In addition, the residual effect of bonemeal is generally noticed on the successive crops grown in the fields where the bonemeal is applied once.

6. In view of the foregoing facts there is sufficient data available from the experiments already conducted with Bonemeal and the popularisation of this manure depends largely on the availability of the same at a cheaper cost. If however Government still desire that experiments should be conducted in respect of the finer grinding costs of both steamed and raw bone to make them available as meal, a scheme will be submitted. Considering the view expressed by many of the manure mixing firms that most of the bonemills in the Province do not have the proper type of machinery for grinding into finer fractions, the proposed experiments may also incorporate the idea of incorporating plans for the demonstrational trials of the right class of equipment. Incidentally this may even be made use of for the correct reorientation of the future policy in respect of the quality of bonemeal to be employed in the mixture trade and the setting up of bone mills and their production standards.

Sd. B.M.Lakshmipathi.
Joint Director of Agriculture.

/True Copy(Forwarded) By Order/

Sd. T. Shanmugasundram.
Assistant Marketing Officer.

/True Copy/

Food & Agriculture (N) Department.

Sub: Agriculture - Grow More Food - Revised Food Production Policy - Use of bonemeal to increase Production.
Ref: D.O. to the Joint Director of Agriculture No.53575 AV/49-1 dated 23-5-49.
From the Joint Director of Agriculture, letter No.M.3 '001/49 dated 5-8-49.

TO/A.S

In the D.O at p. 1 c.f. the Joint Director of Agriculture was requested to offer his remarks on the suggestion that Agriculture Research Section should conduct experiments for converting bonemeal into more easily assimilable forms in order that quick and more easily perceptable results may be achieved. Certain firms which were consulted by the Joint Director of Agriculture have recommended that a finer grinding of the bonemeal will ensure quick and perceptible results but that it will cost more than the present price and that many of the bonemills in the Province may not have the equipment suitable for undertaking this fine grinding. It is also stated that steamed bonemeal is generally advocated as the steaming process softens the bones and also increases the citric soluble phosphoric acid contents which make the material act quicker. But it appears to the Joint Director of Agriculture that this high cost of manufacture would be difficult to be recovered from the ryots in the price, which would have to be demanded in the initial stages.

2. The Joint Director of Agriculture has taken this opportunity to suggest that consumption of bonemeal in this Province both as straight material and as mixtures is not just a small fraction of the output as stated at p.1 c.f. but ~~that is not just~~ whole quantity produced which is estimated to be nearly 15000 to 20000 tons, is enough to meet the needs of the Province. However he feels that the consumption can be increased if more of ammonium sulphate is allotted, which is one of the main ingredients for manure mixtures. He also states that where green manure is not available, bonemeal mixed with Superphosphate and Sulphate of Ammonia gives quick and perceptible results.

The Joint Director of Agriculture considers that there are sufficient data available with the experiments already conducted with bonemeal and the popularisation of this manure depends largely on the availability of the same at a cheaper cost. He states that if Government still desire that experiments should be conducted in respect of finer griding costs of both steamed and rawbone to make them available as meal a scheme will be submitted. This seems to indicate that the Joint Director is not in favour of conducting any further experiments for converting bonemeal into more easily assimible forms, but that a new kind of experiement may be made incorporating plans for the demonstrational trials of the right class of equipment for grinding the meal into finer fractions.

3. The Joint Director of Agriculture has not reported whether the requisite machinery for the finer griding of bonemeal for conducting experiments and demonstrations are readily available with any foreign firms, and what the approximate cost of the whole scheme will be. The Joint Director has not also stated whether there is a possibility of manufacturing the finer varieties at a cheaper cost atleast after the commencing stages. On the whole it would appear that the experiments will take some time to prove their value and may not be readily helpful in obtaining quick results for the intensive cultivatit scheme. In the circumstances it is for consideration whether the matter will be proceeded with, and the Joint Director of

griculture instructed to submit a scheme in the manner proposed, or the matter will be dropped. For orders.

If it is considered that the scheme may be called for, the remarks of Finance may be invited.

The matter may be dropped.

Sd. x x x
5-9-49.

I agree with A.S.

Sd. x x x
7-9-49.

Finance (PWR).

Please see the notes from p. 1 above. Finance may also agree with Food and Agriculture Department that the proposal to conduct experiments for converting bonemeal into more easily assimilable forms may be dropped.

Sd. x x x
8-9-49.

Food .

TO A.S.

Finance notes above.

A draft order recording the papers is submitted for approval.

Sd. x x x
13-9-49.

(Issued as G.O.Ms.968 dated 15-9-1948).

/True Copy/

Office Assistant,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

ss/23-9.

RB
9/10

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

Agriculture - Grow More Food - Revised Food Production Policy Use of bone meal to increase Production - Proposals dropped - Papers Recorded.

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Food And Agriculture Department.

G.O.Ms.No.968. Dated 15th September 1949.
Read the following:

D.O. to the Joint Director of Agriculture
No.53575 AV/49-1 (Dev) dated 23-5-48.
From the Joint Director of Agriculture, No.M.3.
1001/49 dated 5-5-49.

O R D E R:

R E C O R D E D.

/By Order of His Excellency the Governor/

Sd. x x x
Secretary to Government.

To the Joint Director of Agriculture.

/True Copy/

Office Assistant,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

ss/23-9.

9/10